

workman, and was engaged to dance with Gervaise. He had no opportunity for conversation when Manet introduced him to Zola, but he called at Me"dan a few weeks afterwards, and a close friendship sprang up between him and the author of " L'Assommoir." Each, however, was possessed of strong personal convictions, and, as years went by, Zola's life and work gradually took a course of which Mr. Moore did not approve, perhaps because — as admitted by himself — he failed to understand it.

The law of the world is evolution. *Ifhomme absurde est celui qui ne change jamais*; and Zola, amid the very triumph of "L'Assommoir," at the very moment when he was expounding the principles of Naturalism in the "Viestnik Yevropi" and "Le Voltaire" (which he joined when "Le Bien Public" ceased publication), was already, and quite unconsciously, perhaps, undergoing a change. He was in some degree carried away by the sudden accession of ample means after years of poverty and years of battle. In the long run he showed himself superior to fortune, whether it were favourable or adverse, but he found its first smile irresistible, as so often happens with those who have long toiled and suffered and cursed their fate. Briefly, he proved no exception to the

general rule; and
he was taunted with having failed to
depart from it,
being candidly told in print that, like Herbert
Spencer and
Gustave Flaubert, he ought to have been
quite content
with mere lodging-house surroundings, and
that he made
a ridiculous use of his comparative wealth.

Most of his money, it may be mentioned,
was lavished
on his property at Me'dan, to which he made
many additions,
building, for instance, a large square
tower in which